

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 25, all as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
a data structure stored in said storage medium, the data structure including or referring to:
a name;
a content repository identifier;
a property;
a property definition;
a path; and
a reference to a parent data structure;
wherein the data structure is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR);
wherein the VCR represents, using an application program interface (API), a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories from the application program's standpoint;
wherein the plurality of content repositories plug into the VCR via a service provider interface (SPI);
wherein the API and the SPI share a content model that represents content of the plurality of content repositories as a hierarchical namespace of nodes;
wherein the path uniquely specifies the data structure's location in the VCR; and
wherein a content repository is a searchable data store.
2. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein the content repository identifier comprises:
a repository name; and
a content identifier that is unique for one of the plurality of content repositories.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
a property is an association between a name and at least one value; and

wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the plurality of content repositories.

5. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 4 wherein:
the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual presentation, or binary data.
6. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the property definition can specify at least one of the following for the property:
 - property choices;
 - a reference;
 - a data type;
 - whether the property is mandatory;
 - whether the property is multi-valued;
 - whether the property is primary;
 - whether the property is read-only; and
 - whether the property is restricted.
7. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically related to other data structures and the plurality of content repositories.
8. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 7 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically inferior to the plurality of content repositories.
- 9-24. (Canceled).
25. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
 - a first object stored in the medium to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace;
 - a second object stored in the medium to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object;

a third object stored in the medium to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the second object;
wherein the first object is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR) and includes a reference to a parent object and a path that uniquely specifies the first object's location in the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents, using an application program interface (API), a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository encompassing the plurality of content repositories from the application program's standpoint;
wherein the plurality of content repositories plug into the VCR via a service provider interface (SPI);
wherein the API and the SPI share a content model that represents content of the plurality of content repositories as a hierarchical namespace of nodes; and
wherein a content repository is a searchable data store.

26. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the first group of services comprises:

first functions that enable associating the first object with a location in the namespace.

27. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second group of services comprises:

second functions that enable creating, reading, updating and deleting the information.

28. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein the third group of services comprises:

third functions that enable specifying at least one of the following for the second object:

information choices;
a reference;
an information type;
whether the information is mandatory;
whether the information is multi-valued;
whether the information is primary;
whether the information is read-only; and
whether the information is restricted.

29. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 further comprising:
a fourth object to specify a location of the first object in the namespace.
30. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 29 wherein the fourth object includes:
a content repository name; and
a content identifier that is unique for one of the plurality of content repositories.
31. (Canceled).
32. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25, further comprising:
a fifth object to provide a fifth set of services related to searching the VCR.
33. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
the second object associates a name and at least one value; and
wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the plurality of content repositories.
34. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 33 wherein:
the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual presentation, or binary data.
35. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
the first object is hierarchically related to other objects and the plurality of content repositories.
36. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25 wherein:
there is no second object.
37. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 25, further comprising:
a sixth object to provide a sixth group of services related to configuring the VCR.
- 38.-50. (Canceled)